

CLAIMS

1. (Cancelled)
2. (Currently Amended). A method for evaluating a seal on a package, comprising: determining a value of a burst test force parameter, the burst test force parameter being a parameter that results from a force placed on the package during a burst test; and using the value of the burst test force parameter to determine a value of a peel test force parameter for the package, the peel test force parameter being a parameter that results from a force placed on the package during a peel test;

~~The method of claim 1, wherein using the value of the burst test force parameter to determine a value of a peel test force parameter includes:~~

comparing the burst test force parameter value to a test conversion relationship associating burst test force parameter values and peel test force parameter values, the association indicating the burst test force parameter value and the peel test force parameter value that would result from performing a burst test and a peel test such that a seal would peel at substantially the same velocity during the burst test and during the peel test.
3. (Original) The method of claim 2, wherein the relationship is expressed as a database including a plurality of peel test force parameter values that are each associated with a burst test force parameter value.
4. (Original) The method of claim 2, wherein the relationship is expressed as a mathematical expression.
5. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 4 2, wherein the burst test is a constant pressure burst test.
6. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 4 2, further comprising: determining the velocity at which the seal peels during the burst test.

7. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 4 2, further comprising:
using the value of the burst test force parameter to determine an integrity for the seal, the integrity being generated from a peel test.
8. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 4 2, further comprising:
comparing the determined value of the peel test force parameter to integrity evaluation data.
9. (Original) The method of claim 8, wherein the integrity evaluation data includes a plurality of integrity evaluation relationships that provide a relationship between peel velocity and the peel test force parameter value, each integrity evaluation relationship being associated with a particular seal integrity.
10. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 4 2, further comprising:
determining the velocity at which the seal peels during the burst test; and
comparing the determined value of the peel test force parameter and the determined peel velocity to integrity evaluation data.
11. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 4 2, wherein the burst test force parameter value is selected from the group consisting of:
pressure, work, force, power and rate of fluid inflow.
12. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 4 2, wherein the peel test force parameter value is selected from the group consisting of work, force and power.
13. (Canceled)

14. (Currently Amended) A method for evaluating a seal on a package, comprising:
evaluating a value of a burst test force parameter, the burst test force parameter
being a parameter that results from a force placed on the package during a burst test;
and

using the value of the burst test force parameter to determine a seal integrity, the
seal integrity being an integrity value that is determined by performing peel tests on the
seal;

~~The method of claim 13, wherein using the value of the burst test force~~
parameter to determine a peel test seal integrity for the seal includes:

using the value of the burst test force parameter to determine a value of a peel
test force parameter for the package; and

comparing the value of the peel test force parameter to seal integrity evaluation
data.

15. (Original) The method of claim 14, wherein the integrity evaluation data includes
a plurality of integrity evaluation relationships that provide a relationship between peel
velocity and the peel test force parameter value, each integrity evaluation relationship
being associated with a particular seal integrity.

16. (Original) The method of claim 15, further comprising:

determining the velocity at which the seal peels during the burst test; and
comparing the determined peel velocity and the value of the peel test force
parameter to one or more of the integrity evaluation relationships.

17. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 43 14, wherein the burst test includes
a constant pressure burst test.

18. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 43 14, wherein the burst test force
parameter value is selected from the group consisting of:

pressure, work, force, power and rate of fluid inflow.

19-29. (Cancelled).

30. (Original) A method of preparing data for use with a seal testing device, comprising:

performing a burst test and a peel test such that a type of seal on a type of package peels at substantially the same velocity during the peel test and the burst test;

evaluating a burst test force parameter value that results from a force applied to the package during the burst test;

evaluating a peel test force parameter value that results from a force applied to the package during the peel test; and

storing the value of the burst test force parameter such that it is associated with the value of the peel test force parameter.

31. (Original) The method of claim 30, wherein storing the value of the burst test force parameter such that it is associated with the value of the peel test force parameter includes

storing the value of the burst test force parameter and the value of the peel test force parameter in a database.

32. (Original) The method of claim 31, wherein the database is associated with the seal type and the package type.

33. (Original) The method of claim 30, wherein storing the value of the burst test force parameter such that it is associated with the value of the peel test force parameter includes

storing the value of the burst test force parameter and the value of the peel test force parameter in a machine readable medium.

34. (Original) The method of claim 30, wherein the burst test force parameter value is selected from the group consisting of:

pressure, work, force, power and rate of inflow.

35. (Original) The method of claim 30, wherein the peel test force parameter value is selected from the group consisting of work, force and power.

36-39. (Cancelled).

40. (Original) A method of preparing data for use with a seal testing device, comprising:

performing a plurality of peel tests on packages that each have the same seal integrity rating, each peel test performed at a different peel velocity;
evaluating a peel test force parameter value resulting from each peel test; and
storing the peel test force parameter values such that the peel test force parameter value for a particular peel test is associated with the peel velocity at which the particular peel test was performed.

41. (New) A method for evaluating a seal on a package, comprising:

determining a value of a burst test force parameter, the burst test force parameter being a parameter that results from a force placed on the package during a burst test;

using the value of the burst test force parameter to determine a value of a peel test force parameter for the package, the peel test force parameter being a parameter that results from a force placed on the package during a peel test; and

determining the velocity at which the seal peels during the burst test.

42. (New) The method of claim 41, wherein using the value of the burst test force parameter to determine a value of a peel test force parameter includes comparing the burst test force parameter value to a test conversion relationship associating burst test force parameter values and peel test force parameter values, the association indicating the burst test force parameter value and the peel test force parameter value that would result from performing a burst test and a peel test such that a seal would peel at substantially the same velocity during the burst test and during the peel test, and the relationship is expressed as a database including a plurality of peel test force parameter values that are each associated with a burst test force parameter value.

43. (New) The method of claim 41, wherein using the value of the burst test force parameter to determine a value of a peel test force parameter includes comparing the burst test force parameter value to a test conversion relationship associating burst test force parameter values and peel test force parameter values, the association indicating the burst test force parameter value and the peel test force parameter value that would result from performing a burst test and a peel test such that a seal would peel at substantially the same velocity during the burst test and during the peel test, and the relationship is expressed as a mathematical expression.
44. (New) The method of claim 41, wherein the burst test is a constant pressure burst test.
45. (New) The method of claim 41, further comprising:
determining the velocity at which the seal peels during the burst test.
46. (New) The method of claim 41, further comprising:
using the value of the burst test force parameter to determine an integrity for the seal, the integrity being generated from a peel test.
47. (New) The method of claim 41, further comprising:
comparing the determined value of the peel test force parameter to integrity evaluation data.
48. (New) The method of claim 47, wherein the integrity evaluation data includes a plurality of integrity evaluation relationships that provide a relationship between peel velocity and the peel test force parameter value, each integrity evaluation relationship being associated with a particular seal integrity.
49. (New) The method of claim 41, further comprising:
comparing the determined value of the peel test force parameter and the determined peel velocity to integrity evaluation data.

50. (New) The method of claim 41, wherein the burst test force parameter value is selected from the group consisting of:

pressure, work, force, power and rate of fluid inflow.

51. (New) The method of claim 41, wherein the peel test force parameter value is selected from the group consisting of work, force and power.